## TAX TIPS FOR MEMPHIS CITIZENS

# PROTECT YOURSELF FROM UNSCRUPULOUS TAX PREPARERS

## According to the IRS

The IRS holds taxpayers responsible for the accuracy of all entries made on their tax returns

#### Tips for choosing a tax professional:

Avoid return preparers who claim they can obtain larger refunds than other preparers

Avoid preparers who base their fee on a percentage of the amount of the refund

Use a professional that will sign the return and enter his/her tax id number

Consider if the preparer or firm will be around later to answer questions about your return

### Why this is important?

Cities and States across the country have citizens who are victimized by preparers who have defrauded citizens of hundreds of thousands of dollars

Memphis should ensure that its citizens are informed and make good choices in selecting a preparer

Memphis should consider taking additional steps to protect citizens by ensuring that we have the mechanisms in place to investigate and enforce any existing avenues to prosecute abusive preparers